



7/1/76 V 038 R
Department of State

UNCLASSIFIED

TELEGRAM

AN: D760256-0363

PAGE 01 BUENOS 04341 012140Z

14

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 10-13 ISO-00 DHA-02 EB-07 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SCCT-01 AID-05 /085 W

102209

R 012100Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6212

INFO AMEMBASSY ASUNCION

AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

USMISSION GENEVA

ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044)

U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS

Margaret P. Grafeld, Director

☒ Release ☐ Excise ☐ Deny

Exemption(s):

Declassify: ☐ In Part ☒ In Full **DECONTROL**

☐ Classify as ☐ Extend as ☐ Downgrade to

Date Declassify on Reason

BUENOS AIRES 4341

DECONTROL

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PINS, PGOV, SHUM, AR

SUBJECT: VIDELA REITERATES MODERATE LINE ON POLITICAL, ECONOMIC
AND INTERNAL SECURITY POLICIES

REF: BUENOS AIRES 4272 NOTAL

1. ADDRESSING CONFERENCE OF PROVINCIAL GOVERNORS JUNE 30,
PRESIDENT VIDELA, SUPPLEMENTED BY MIN INTERIOR GENERAL
HARGUINDEGUY, REPEATED AND REEMPHASIZED GOA POSITIONS ON KEY
MATTERS OF POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC POLICY AND ON SENSITIVE
AREA OF INTERNAL SECURITY/HUMAN RIGHTS. SPEECH ITSELF BROKE
NO NEW GROUND, AND WE ASSUME DEPT HAS TEXT VIA FBIS.

2. OF IMPORTANCE WAS BIDELA'S REITERATION OF HIS MODERATE
LINE ON POLITICAL AND SECURITY QUESTIONS, AND HIS EVIDENT
FULL COMMITMENT TO SUPPORT OF ECON MIN MARTINEZ DE HOZ'
ECONOMIC PROGRAM.

3. VIDELA EMPHASIZED FEDERAL NATURE OF GOA AND NEED FOR

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 BUENOS 04341 012140Z

PROVINCES TO ATTACK OWN PROBLEMS. HE RECOGNIZED DANGERS OF "ISOLATION" OF CENTRAL GOVERNMENT (I.E. MILITARY) AND ASSURED LISTENERS THAT LACK OF FORMAL PROGRAM OF RELATIONS WITH POLITICAL PARTIES DOES NOT MEAN GOA IS CLOSED TO ADVICE AND COLLABORATION FROM ALL RESPONSIBLE SECTORS.

4. HE LEFT NO DOUBT OF HIS FULL SUPPORT FOR MARTINEZ DE HOZ' ECONOMIC POLICIES. PRESS RECOGNIZED THIS SPECIFICALLY IN ITS COVERAGE. WHILE DECLINING TO PREDICT WHEN PRESENT RECESSION AND RELATED DIFFICULTIES WOULD END, HE PROMISED THAT GOA WILL DO ALL POSSIBLE TO IMPROVE SITUATION.

5. BOTH VIDELA AND HARGUINDEGUY CALLED FOR NATIONAL EFFORT OF ALL, NOT JUST GOVT, TO JOIN STRUGGLE AGAINST SUBVERSION. THEY REPEATED AND REINFORCED FEDERAL POLICE CHIEF CORBETTA'S RECENT DECLARATION (REFTEL) THAT TOTAL EFFORT WOULD BE MADE BY GOA TO END TERRORISM AND LIMIT USE OF VIOLENCE STRICTLY TO AUTHORIZED, LEGITIMATE ORGANS OF STATE. HARGUINDEGUY CALLED UPON GOVERNORS TO TELL THE TRUTH TO THE PEOPLE, "EVEN WHEN IT HURTS", EXPOSING ILLEGAL TERRORIST BANDS (RIGHT-WING AND SECURITY FORCES "DEATH SQUADS"--NOT STATED BUT CLEARLY IMPLIED). HARGUINDEGUY NOTED THAT "BETTER FUTURE CANNOT BE CONSTRUCTED UPON LIES AND CONCEALMENT".

6. COMMENT: ENDORSEMENT OF MARTINEZ DE HOZ' POLICIES MAY HELP QUIET RUMORS THAT ECON MINISTER IN BAD ODOR OR ON WAY OUT. VERY POINTED REMARKS ON TERRORISM, VIRTUALLY ADMITTING THAT ELEMENTS OF SECURITY FORCES AND RELATED RIGHTIST FORCES ARE ACTING AGAINST WISHES OF GOA (OR AT LEAST OF VIDELA AND HARGUINDEGUY), INDICATE DEPTH OF CONCERN OVER HUMAN RIGHTS PROBLEM AND WHAT IT IS DOING TO REPUTATION OF GOA. WHETHER OR NOT THIS PRESAGES EFFECTIVE MEASURES TO GET SITUATION UNDER CONTROL REMAINS TO BE SEEN.
HILL

UNCLASSIFIED